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IN TOWN AND COUNTRY
AT HOME & ABROAD

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DRAMA

VOL 14 MAY MCMXXXVI NUMBER 8

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE

PLAYS OF THE MONTH

By G. W. Bishop.

ANY attempt to make the playhouse as cheap, as convenient and as comfortable as the cinema is to be commended. At the moment there is a minor revolution in the West End of London, where half-a-dozen theatres have adopted the twice-nightly policy. Sir Oswald Stoll has been running the Coliseum and the Alhambra on these lines for some time; now Charles B. Cochran and Andre Charlot are also making a bid for the suburbs. They are running their musical shows at cheap—or cheaper—prices and at times when it is possible to dine in comfort either before or after the show.

It is a paradox that only expensive pieces can be run at cheap prices. At least it is Mr. Cochran's view that only big musical plays in large theatres can be played twice-nightly, but there would seem to be no reason—provided the play is not of a strong emotional nature which takes a great deal out of the actor—why the policy should not be extended to the more intelligent forms of entertainment.

A varied selection of new plays have been produced since the last issue of "Drama." Helen Jerome's adaptation of "Pride and Prejudice" brings Jane Austen charmingly to life at the St. James's, and, more recently there has been Max Beerbohm's delicious conceit, "The Happy Hypocrite," in Clemence Dane and Richard Addinsell's dramatic version at His Majesty's. Both are attractively set entertainments. Ivor Novello manages a wonderful make-up as Lord George Hell and he really suggests something of the Regency in his acting. The later scenes with Vivien Leigh have a captivating simplicity which is perfectly in place in the Motley's ingenious woodland set.

The present craze for the psychological murder thriller, started by "Night Must Fall" and "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," is again satisfied at the New Theatre, where Frank Vosper and Agatha Christie's play, "Love From a Stranger" is being acted. The first two acts are dullish, but there is authentic excitement in the final scene between Mr. Vosper and that fine actress, Marie Ney.

At the Prince's there is an old-fashioned mixture of melodrama and sensation in Ian Hay's "The Frog," based on Edgar Wallace. It is grand fun—if you leave your wits behind and are prepared to revel in the spectacle of Gordon Harker as a cockney detective tracking down the leader of a band of criminals.

Of the light shows, Herbert Farjeon's revue at the Saville, "Spread it Abroad," is the best. It contains wit which is salted with satire and is brightly and not too pretentiously presented. Nelson Keys dashes from character to character with a rapidity that is amazing and Ivy St. Helier is nicely served. Dorothy Dickson, still as pretty as a picture, is given a chance to act now and then, and possibly the best thing of the evening is her sketch of the girl showing her seaside snapshots to a young man.

The most interesting play of the month has been Rodney Ackland's "After October," which has come to the Criterion after a trial trip at the Arts. A new piece by this young author is likely to be the best play in any month, for Ackland has a gift for assembling everyday life on the stage. His characters are a little larger than life, but they give the impression of being real and worth presenting. Nancy Price plays the 101-year-old matriarch in "Whiteoaks," Mazo de la Roche's own adaptation of her novel, which is to be seen at the

Little Theatre. The characters are vividly drawn, but the slight story is loosely knit. Miss Price predominates the scene for the first two acts, but she is too young for her age. Stephen Haggard plays his usual part of the sensitive boy very sensitively.

One of the most enjoyable things I have seen lately is Trudi Schoop's comedy ballet, "Fridolin," which Andre Charlot has brought from the Embassy to the Vaudeville. Here is comic miming at its finest. Every member of the little company is a first-rate actor; all the fun is based on observation and the burlesque element is never forced. Trudi Schoop herself is a brilliant artist. She expresses beautifully the ingenuousness of the youthful Fridolin who sets out on his adventurous journey into the big world. It is really a charming little morality in which there are gaiety and satire and human feeling.

DRAMA LEAGUE NOTES

THE number of entries in this year's Festival was so great that the mere list of them occupies practically the whole of our Festival Number. At the same time the past month has been unusually full of Drama League events and it is regrettable that they can be only briefly mentioned in the following notes.

FESTIVAL FINAL.

This will be held on Monday, May 25th, at 7 p.m. at the Old Vic, London, by kind permission of Miss Lilian Baylis and the Governors. The adjudicators will be Miss Irene Hentschel, Mr. John Drinkwater, and Mr. Henry Cass. Seats may now be booked on application to the Secretary, British Drama League, at the following prices: Stalls, 10s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 5s. Circle 5s. and 3s. 6d. Early application is desirable, as experience shows that when held in the evening, the Festival attracts a very large attendance. Tickets for Pit and Gallery (unreserved) 2s. 6d. and 1s. are obtainable only at the Theatre immediately before the performance.

EXHIBITION OF MODERN SCENIC ART.

For a fortnight the British Drama League in association with the National Theatre Appeal Committee has held a most successful Exhibition of models and theatre designs at the Thackeray Rooms, Messrs. Derry & Toms, Kensington. Most of the well-known stage designers exhibited, together with the repertory theatres, and many community and amateur movements. The Exhibition also included an important collection displaying the work of National and Municipal Theatres on the Continent. A series of lectures was also held every afternoon, and attendance increased every day that the Exhibition was open. We are glad to announce that the Exhibition is to be transferred *en bloc* to the Manchester City Art Gallery where it will open at the middle of June for six weeks. Thus the North will benefit equally with the South in an enterprise which would never have been set on foot but for the British Drama League.

Mr. HOLFORD KNIGHT.

The British Drama League deeply regrets the death of Mr. Holford Knight which occurred in London on Sunday, April 26. For over twelve years Holford Knight had been an active member of the League's Council, and at many meetings and Conferences of the League his breezy eloquence had invigorated the assembly. Always so full of courage and optimism, he inspired enthusiasm for many causes. A true Knight Errant of the National Theatre Movement, he never tired in inspiring others with his own enthusiasm for this great enterprise. Both the British Drama League and the Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre will long feel his loss.

FIRST-NIGHTERS CLUBS.

The first of these Clubs, which, as readers will remember, were recommended in a resolution moved by Mr. Bushill-Matthews at the League Conference at Stratford-upon-Avon last Autumn, was successfully inaugurated at a meeting in Birmingham held at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, on Wednesday, April 8th. Mr. Geoffrey Whitworth presided, and the principal Speaker, Mr. John Drinkwater, explained that the object of the Club was to encourage attendance on Monday evenings at Birmingham's "legitimate" theatres, and that if the experiment proved successful in that city it would be widely copied. "We want to see," said Mr. Drinkwater, "if we can start some concerted movement throughout the country to save this living stage for ourselves. If something can be done to help theatres on Monday nights, when receipts are generally inadequate, they will be encouraged, and more attractive performances will result."

Mr. Bushill-Matthews suggested that Birmingham people stayed away from the theatres until they had seen what the critics had to say about the shows. The Club was a purely voluntary organisation, and its success rested upon the response to it by the people of Birmingham. On the platform were Miss Phyllis Philip Rodway, (Hon. Secretary of the proposed Club), Mr. Leon Salberg (Alexandra Theatre), Mr. T. Fitzgibbon (Theatre Royal), Mr. Emile Littler (Touring Managers' Association), Mr. W. L. Barber (Birmingham Amateur Dramatic Federation), Mr. W. Jackson Houlston, and Councillor Simpson. There were over 300 people present.

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE COMMUNITY THEATRE FESTIVAL

This year the entries in the National Festival amounted to 747—an increase of 92 over the entries in the 1935 Festival. As usual we print a complete list of the plays entered in the various areas. Those plays selected to appear in the Divisional Finals are designated by one asterisk, and in the Area Finals by two asterisks.

The Eastern Area Final in London was adjudicated on behalf of the Council of the League by Mr. Robert Atkins; the Northern Area at Ilkley by Mr. Evan John; the Welsh Divisional Finals at Mardy by Mr. Martin Browne; and the Scottish Area (on behalf of the Scottish Community Drama Association) in Glasgow by Mr. Richard Southern. The Western Area Final at the Palace Court Theatre, Bournemouth, will be adjudicated by Mr. William Armstrong.

Of the five plays to appear at the Final Festival to be held in London, at the Old Vic, on Monday evening, May 25th, the following have already been selected. "And So To War," by Joe Corrie, presented by Glasgow Corporation Transport Players (Scottish Area). "Othello," (last Act), by William Shakespeare, presented by Montague Burton Players. "The Spartan Girl," by A. J. Talbot, presented by the Guild of Abbey Players, Abingdon, (Eastern Area). "Twentieth Century Lullaby" by Cedric Mount, presented by the Treharris Players, (Welsh Area).

EASTERN AREA.

On the whole this has proved a very successful year. Much fresh ground has been explored and experiments tried which should ensure even more satisfactory results in the future. The entries show an increase of 48 on last year's figures, the London Division being mainly responsible with 82 entries to their credit against 57 last year. This year the Division boundaries have undergone some alteration: South Essex were under the organisation of the London Area, although they held Festivals at Southend and Harold Wood as formerly; Western Middlesex had been transferred to "E" Division and held Festivals at Uxbridge and Harrow. The entries were divided as follows: "B" 64, "C" 69, "D" 82, "E" 44 (Last year: 55, 59, 57 and 40 respectively).

The financial results of the Festivals are not yet available, but it is hoped that all expenses will be cleared. Audiences at the preliminary Festivals have been disappointing, but very successful Divisional Finals have been held at the following centres: "B"—Welwyn Garden City; "C"—Richmond; "D"—Scala Theatre; "E"—Beaconsfield.

Festivals have been held for the first time at Clare (Suffolk), Downham Market (Norfolk) and at Chatham and Tonbridge, the two latter instead of Maidstone for the Kent societies. Most of the old centres have been retained. The Adjudicators were: Mr. Malcolm Morley, Mr. Harold Ridge, Mr. Robert Young, Mr. Neil Porter. Divisional Finals: Mr. Norman Marshall, Mr. Michael McOwan, Mr. Sladen-Smith. Mr. Robert Atkins adjudicated the Area Final, which was held at the Scala Theatre on Wednesday, April 29th. It is interesting to note that three of the four teams competing have never before reached an Area Final.

"D" Division (London, Middlesex and S. Essex) experienced increased difficulty this year in obtaining a sufficiently large audience for the preliminary Festivals. For this reason and also because it is felt that centralisation on so big a scale, is detrimental to the proper Festival spirit, this Division have decided to decentralise very much more next year and have adopted a very clear cut scheme, to this end.

It is felt that some measures should be taken with regard to teams withdrawing their entries at the last moment; in some cases a Festival would have had to have been scratched had not a local team produced a last minute entry.

The following is the list of centres at which Festivals have been held:—

"*B*" *Division:* Bedford, Cambridge, Woodbridge and Clare (Suffolk), Norwich and Downham Market (Norfolk), Watford and Welwyn (Herts.), Boston, Colchester.

"*C*" *Division:* Croydon, Hastings, Brighton, Aldingbourne, Tonbridge, Chatham, Hythe, Richmond.

"*D*" *Division:* King George's Hall (15 nights and 3 matinees), Hamilton Hall, Forest Hill, S.E.23, Southend and Harold Wood.

"*E*" *Division:* Northampton, Harrow, Uxbridge, Reading, Beaconsfield, Kettering, Slough, Abingdon.

FLORENCE E. SMITH,
Secretary.

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE COMMUNITY THEATRE FESTIVAL.

*—*Forwarded to Divisional Final.*
**—*Forwarded to Area Final.*

DIVISION "B."

*Barnet Arts Club. "The Little Father of the Wilderness," by Austin Strong.
*Bedford Dramatic Club. "Heaven on Earth," by Philip Johnson; "The Sisters' Tragedy," by Richard Hughes.
Boston High School Old Girls' Association. "Sanctuary," by Phoebe M. Rees.
Boston Playgoers' Society. "Fancy Dress," by Bernard Merivale; "Errant Customs," by Jack Muir.
Bovingdon Players. "Spring Show" (Act I.), by Mollie Aronson; "Talents," by Mollie Aronson.
Braintree A.D.S. "Circumstantial Evidence," by G. H. Grimaldi; "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets," by Bernard Shaw.
Bures D.S. "The Late Christopher Bean" (Act II.), by Fauchois and Williams.
Cavendish and Pentlow W.I. "All Night Service," by Bernard Merivale.
Chelmsford Diocesan Religious Drama Guild. Four scenes from "King Saul," (Authorised Version).
Clacton Comedy Club. "A Piece of China," by Conrad C. Carter.
Colchester Stage Society. "To-day of All Days," by Philip Johnson.
Connard Players. "Gorse," by C. E. J. Houghton; "Fog," by C. E. J. Houghton.
Corby W.I. "The World and the Child," by Wynkyn de Worde.
Crooked Players, Danbury. "Tilda's New Hat," by George Paston.
Downham Market Extension Lecture Society, Dramatic Section. "The Bishop's Candlesticks," by Norman McKinnel.
F.H.A.D.S. Cambridge. "A Short way with Authors," by Gilbert Cannan.
Glemsford W.I. "The Bathroom Door," by Gertrude Jennings.
Grangewood Players. "They Went Forth," by H. F. Rubinstein.
Gt. Yarmouth Y.M.C.A. Players. "Fours into Seven—won't go," by Val Gielgud and S. King-Hall.
Harpenden Group of the B.D.L. "Infernal Birthday," by N. K. Smith.
Holbeach W.I. "Heard in Camera," by Essex Dane.
Holbrook Players. "Dead Weight," by Frank Collier.
Hunstanton Players. "When Knights Were Bold" (Act III.), by Charles Marlowe.
Ipswich Library Players. "A Florentine Tragedy," by Oscar Wilde and T. E. Sturge-Moore.
Lowestoft Art School D.C. "The Man in the Bowler Hat," by A. A. Milne.
March Evening Institute D.C. "Idols," by Phoebe M. Rees.
Mersea Island D.C. "Meet Mrs. Beeton," by L. du Garde Peach.
Mildenhall Singers and Players. "Budge, Budge Not," by N. K. Smith.
N.A.L.G.O. (Colchester Branch. "Thread o' Scarlet," by J. J. Bell.
New Thetford Players. "She Passed Through Lorraine," by Lionel Hale.
Plomesgate D.S. "Compromising Martha," by Keble Howard.
Prince's Street D.S., Norwich. "Boccaccio's Untold Tale," by Harry Kemp.
**Rodney D.C., Cambridge. "Jonah," by Cedric Mount; "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount; Circumstantial Evidence," by G. H. Grimaldi.
Rushmere D.C. "I Made You Possible," by Ivor Brown; "The Late Christopher Bean" (Act III.), by Fauchois and Williams.
Saffron Walden A.D.C. "The King's Pet," by H. Lavedan (trans. V. & F. Vernon); "Villa for Sale," by S. Guitry (trans. by V. & F. Vernon).
Saffron Walden Training College A.D.C. "The Golden Fisherman," by F. Sladen-Smith.
St. Clement's Church Players, Ipswich. "Joint Owners in Spain," by Alice Brown; "The Government Regrets," by Sydney Box.
St. Neots Players. "The Pacifist," by Olive M. Popplewell.
*Seckford Players, Woodbridge. "E. and O.E.," by Crawshay Williams.
Southwold Players. "An Evening on Dartmoor," by Noel Munro.
Spalding High School Old Girls' Society. "Hat and Stick," by Margaret Macnamara.
Stowmarket O. and D.S. "Op-o'-my-Thumb," by F. Fenn and R. Pryce.
Sudbury D.S. "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington.
Tiptree A.D.S. "Five Minutes," by Philip Slade.
Walberswick Players. "Villa for Sale," by Sacha Guitry.
Wander D.S. "Playgoers," by Sir Arthur Pinero.
Watford School of Music D.S. "Nine Till Six" (Act III.), by Aimee and Philip Stuart.
Welwyn Drama Club. "The Bronze Lady and the Crystal Gentleman," by Henri Duvernois; "A Florentine Tragedy," by Oscar Wilde; "Number Ten," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
Welwyn Folk Players. "Service above Self," by Ernest Selley; "The Washerman and the Poet," by Y. Kaneko.
Woodbridge School (Boys). "Clown's Carnival," by Dudley Symon.
Woodbridge School (Staff). "Campbell of Kilmohr," by J. A. Ferguson.

"C" DIVISION.

**Stage Club, Beckenham. "Come Away Death," by Dorothy Carr.
*Pilgrims, Sevenoaks. "Salve Festa Dies," by P. A. M. Long.
*Medway Theatre Club. "Security," by Freda Pieterson.
*Broadstairs Amateurs. "A Privy Council," by W. P. Drury and R. Pryce.
*Ditton Players. "Apologies Granted," by Walter Knight.
Artificer Apprentices, A.T.S. "In the Zone," by Eugene O'Neill.
Twickenham Drama Club. "The Tudor Wench" (Act I, Sc. 2 & 3), by Elswyth Thane.
Hythe Dramatic Club. "Haste to the Wedding," by F. Morton Howard.
Cowfold W.I.D.S. "Budge, Budge Not," by N. K. Smith.

By courtesy of the Carlisle Journal.

SCENE FROM "SINGING SANDS" BY DR. GORDON BOTTOMLEY. FESTIVAL PLAY ENTERED BY THE PENTLAND - ROBSON DRAMATIC SCHOOL, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

SCENE FROM "UNDERGROUND" BY K. ETHEREDGE. FESTIVAL PLAY ENTERED BY THE CYMRIC PLAYERS, AMMANFORD, CARNARVON.

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE COMMUNITY THEATRE FESTIVAL.

Minlake A.D.S. "The Thirteenth Chair" (Act I.), by Bayard Veiller.
Faygate W.I.D.S. "The Wandering Scholar," translated by E. V. Ouless.
Hythe Dramatic Club. "A Domestic Problem," by Lechmere Worrall.
Eynesford W.I. "The Bakehouse," by J. O. Francis.
Forest Players. "Sir Walter Raleigh" (Act IV), by William Devereux.
Thirty-Four Club, Beckenham. "Babes in the Wood," by V. C. Clinton-Baddeley.
Elmers Players. "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
Selsdon Players. "The Deacon and the Jewess," by H. F. Rubinstein.
Chaldon Players. "Milestones" (Act III), by H. Bennett and E. Knoblock.
Greystone Players. "Lonesome Like," by Harold Brighouse.
Canterbury D.S. "Joint Owners in Spain," by Alice Brown.
West Malling D.S. "Solomon's Folly," by Sydney Box.
Ditton Players. "The Illusionist," by Philip Johnson.
Tiffinian Musical and D.S. "We Please or we Perish," by Walter R. Matthews.
Castle Repertory Club. "Shanghai," by W. Stuckes.
View Players. "Passion, Poison and Petrefaction," by Bernard Shaw.
Aldingbourne W.I. "The Eye of the Beholder," by Cyril Grainger.
Henfield W.I. "The Chimney Corner," by M. E. Atkinson.
Medway Theatre Club. "The Chair," by Kenneth V. Saville.
Castle Repertory Club. "The Understudy," by N. E. Tracy.
Twickenham Drama Club. "Touching Bottom," by Frank Powell.
Woldingham Players. "A Florentine Tragedy," by Oscar Wilde and T. S. Moore.
Lewes Players. "St. Simeon Stylites," by F. Sladen-Smith.
Castle Repertory Club. "Escape," by E. F. Parr.
Gravesend A.P. "Circumstantial Evidence," by George H. Grimaldi.
Mitre Theatre Club. "The Theatre," by H. F. Rubinstein.
St. Peter's Players (Croydon). "Between the Soup and the Savoury," by Gertrude Jennings.
New Romney D.C. "They Refused to be Resurrected" by N. K. Smith.
Cavendish House Players. "Thereby Hangs a Tail," by Girvin Cosens.
The Rhomads. "Boccaccio's Untold Tale," by Harry Kemp.
Welling Players. "Lovely Lady," by Walter Knight.
New Malden Co-op Players. "On the Moor," by Stephan Schofield.
Surbiton High School Old Girls' D.S. "I Made You Possible," by Ivor Brown.
Marlow Group. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh.
St. Peter's Players (Pembury). "Haste to the Wedding" by F. Morton Howard.
County Hall Players. "The Lovely Virtue," by Leonard J. Hines.
Haslemere D.C. "The First Honeymoon," by M. E. Francis.
Eiffel Tower D.S. "The Sister who walked in Silence," by Philip Johnson.
Burpham Village Players. "A Miss in her Teens," (Act II.), by David Garrick.
Holy Trinity D.S. (Dartford). "The Lonely of Heart," by Dorothy Coates.
Hastings Players. "The Castaway," by W. W. Jacobs and H. Sargent.
Mitre Theatre Club. "The Government Regrets," by Sydney Box.
Hastings Players. "Everybody's Husband," by Gilbert Cannan.
Southwick Players. "The Gardener," by Vera Arlett.
Worcester Park Co-op. Dramatic Group. "Triffles," by Susan Glaspell.
Rainham Senior School Staff D.S. "Berkeley Square," (Act III, Sc. 1.), by John Balderston.
Kingston Thespians. "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington.
New Eltham Players. "The Man Who Wouldn't Go To Heaven," by F. Sladen-Smith.
Buchanan School. "The Golden Fisherman," by F. Sladen-Smith.
New Eltham Players. "Black 'ell," by Miles Malleson.
Marlow Group. "The Cloak," by Clifford Bax.
The Adventurers. "The Artist," by Tchekov, translated by Malleson.
St. Albans D.C. "The Bathroom Door," by Gertrude Jennings.
Burpham Village Players. "Gentleman in the Next House" (Scenes II and III),
Upper Belvedere D.S. "The Lustre Jug," by Norah Kelly.
East Malling W.I. "My Herbert Says," by Hilda Fitch.
Southwick W.E.A. Group. "Child of Destiny," by H. A. Smart.
Lewes County School Old Girls' D.S. "Double Demon," by A. P. Herbert.
Findon D.C. "Old Man's Beard," by Harry Jarwood.
Not for Competition.
Hythe D.C. (Elmstead Group). "Unnatural Scene."

"D" Division.

Millard Players "A" Team. "Fantastic Flight," by Sydney Box.
Motley "A" Team. "Number 10," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
Hounslow T.W. Guild. "Far, Far Away," by Philip Johnson.
New Play Club "A" Team. "A Small Hour," by B. Gates.
W. H. Smith & Son D.S. "Bulldog Drummond" (Scene), by C. McNeile.
Shoreditch Technical Institute. "The Valiant," by H. Hall and R. Middlemas.
Civil Service (Acton) D.S. "Tickless Time," by S. Glaspell.
Guaranty A.D. Society. "Recipe for Fame,"
Thursday Players "A" Team. "Queer Street," by J. D. Kelly.
Ministry of Labour D.S. "Cherry Orchard" (Act 2), by Anton Tchekov.
Oxford University Press. "Miracle Wine."
Thursday Players "B" Team. "Becky Sharp," by Olive Conway.

Holywell Players. "Thread o' Scarlet," by J. J. Bell.
Kings College D.S. "Little Stone House," by George Calderon.
Fleetway Players. "Lovely Miracle," by Philip Johnson.
Old Brondesburians. "Come Away Death," by Dorothy Carr.
Forum Club. "Joint Partners in Spain," by Alice Brown.
Questors. "The Flame," by Austin Clarke.
**Passengers "A" Team. "Whip Hand," by Leonard de Francquin.
Guildhouse Players. "The Lion Lay Dying," by Mary Lane.
*Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank A.D.S. "Five at 'The George'," by S. Ready.
Alice Mellish Players. "World Without Men," by Philip Johnson.
R.A.C.S. (Tooting) D.S. "Legend," by Philip Johnson.
Spring Grove T.W. Guild. "A Marriage has been Disarranged," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
Millard Players "B" Team. "Playgoers," by Sir Arthur Pinero.
Lady Margaret Hall Players. "Saturday Sensation," by J. de Fraine.
Drury Players. "Pawns," by Philip Wilde.
Hammersmith Co-op. D.S. "Devil Among the Skins," by Ernest Goodwin.
New Play Club "B" Team. "Orange Nelly." by Mary D. Sheridan.
*Lyons (Cadby Hall) D.S. "Sleeping Clergyman" (Scenes), by O. H. Mavor.
Harlequin Club "A" Team. "Little Stone House," by George Calderon.
Dramateurs. "Playgoers," by Sir Arthur Pinero.
Marsham Street Players. "Symphony in Illusion," by J. W. Bell.
New Players "A" Team. "Lightened Darkness." by Milton R. Krever.
Endell Street W.I. D.S. "Perfect Ending," by F. Ryerson and C. Clements.
Harlequin Club "B" Team. "Budge, Budge Not," by N. K. Smith.
Pantonians D.S. "Someone at the Door," (Act 3), by D. and C. Christy.
Past and Present Players "A" Team. "Marco Millions," by Eugene O'Neill.
St. Bride D.S. "Towards Morning."
L.M.S. Rly. D.S. "After the Event," by Hugh Ross.
Admiralty D.S. "Aria da Capo," by Edna St. V. Millay.
Midland Bank D.S. "Count Albany," by Donald Carswell.
Lloyds Bank D. & O. Society. "Waterloo," by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.
Burlington A.D. Society. "Recipe for Fame."
Toynbee Hall N. Club. "The Government Regrets," by Sydney Box.
Kerwin Players "A" Team. "A Body for the Surgeons," by A. Heather-Bigg.
Past and Present Players "B" Team. "Hell Knows no Fury."
Blackfriars Society. "The Sisters Tragedy," by Richard Hughes.
Passengers "B" Team. "John Brown's Body." by Norman Leven.
His Master's Voice A.D.S. "Virtue Triumphant." by Paul Gibson.
All Hallows A.D.S. "The Decoy," by Philip Slade.
Kerwin Players "B" Team. "Birds of Passage," by H. Lenfranc.
Battersea Co-op. D.S. "Escape," scenes 8-9, by John Galsworthy.
New Players "B" Team. "Fire Below," by Leonard J. Hines and Frank King.
Berkeley Players. "Trifles," by Susan Glaspell.
Shoreditch Technical Institute D.S. "B" Team. "Chin, Chin Chinaman,"
War Office A.D.S. "Unnatural Scene," by Kathleen Davey.
Greenville Players. "St. Anthony's Eve," by G. Hardy.
Motley "B" Team. "The Hat Trick," by L. du Garde Peach.
Old Goldolphins. "The Confutation of Wisdom," by F. Sladen-Smith.
Stanley Gardens D.S. "A" Team. "A Florentine Tragedy," by Oscar Wilde.
Westcliffe C. A.D.S. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh.
New Century Club. "Dark Lady of the Sonnets," by George Bernard Shaw.
Southend N.U.T. D.S. "Number 10," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
*Stanley Gardens "B" Team. Scene from "King Lear," by William Shakespeare.
Queens Club. "Dropping the Baby," by Harold Chapin.
Croydon Co-op. A.D.S. "And Dante Smiled."
Shooters Hill Players. "Five at 'The George'," by Stuart Ready.
Richadians. "It's the Poor that helps the poor," by Harold Chapin.
Shornells E. & D.S. "Happy Death, Ltd.," by F. Sladen-Smith.
Hatcham Players. "A Family Comedy," by Marjorie Bowen.
Everyman's Theatre. "All Night Service," by Bernard Merivale.
King Alfred Players. "Puck's Good Deed for the Day," by John Bourne.
Romford N.U.T. D.S. "A Family Comedy," by Marjorie Bowen.
Harold Wood W.I. D.S. "Number 10," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
Essex County D.A. "Golden Wings."
Grangewood Players. "Lucrezia Borgia's Little Party," by A. J. Talbot.
Peckham & Honor Oak D.S. "If the Cap Fits."
Shooters Hill "B" Team. "The Wreck," by Stuart Ready.
New Cross D.S. "Milestones" (Act 3.), by A. Bennett and S. Knoblock.

Division "E."

**The Guild of Abbey Players. "The Spartan Girl," by A. E. Talbot.
*The Boxford Masquers. "The Stolen Prince," by Dan Totheroh.
*The Players Club, Beaconsfield. "Love and How to Cure It," by Thornton Wilder; "Villa for Sale," by Sacha Guitry.
*Horlicks A.D.S. "E. & O.E.," by Eliot Crawshay-Williams.

Southall Fellowship D.S. "Birds of a Feather," by J. O. Francis; "Joint Owners in Spain," by S. Caldwell.
Northants Fed. of W.Is. "The House Fairy," by Laurence Housman.
The Charity Players "B". "Casualties," by Martin Flavin.
The Hospital Players. "Ladies-in-Waiting," by Wendy St. Joan Maule.
Slough Y.M.C.A. "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
The Old Lyonians. "Midsummer Night's Dream" (Act V.), by William Shakespeare.
Slough A.D.S. "I Saw a Star," by Bernard Merivale.
The Upton Players. "The Singing Soul," by Mr. Henry Backus.
The Good Companions. "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
St. John's Dramatic Society. "The Lovely Miracle," by Philip Johnson.
The Clarendon Press. "Hobson's Choice," by Harold Brighouse.
Harrow Congregational Church Players. "The Lovely Miracle," by Philip Johnson.
The Re-Actors. "Over the Top," by E. and D. E. Hickey.
The Modern Players. "Cophetua," by John Drinkwater.
Milham Ford Old Girls' D.C. "Get out of your Cage," by Mary Pakington.
Hillside Players. "Two in a Masquerade," by Ian Dare.
Peterborough Playgoers. "Crime at Blossoms," by Mordaunt Shairp.
Gerrards Cross Players. "The Maitlands," by Ronald Mackenzie.
The Oxford Experimental Players. "Romance of the Willow Pattern."
The New Players. "The Bishop's Candlesticks," by Norman McKinnel.
The Hamtune Players. "The Bronze Lady and the Glass Gentleman," by Henri Duverois.
Harrow Garden Village Players. "Sweet Wine," by Kenneth Bolton.
The Reading Insurance Players. "The 300th Performance," by Stephen Barnett.
St. Martin's Players. "Puck's Good Deed for the Day," by John Bourne.
The Jordans Players. "Godstow Nunnery," by Laurence Binyon.
The Geddington and Newton W.I. "The Thorn Tree."
'Our Village' Players. "Safe Custody," by Austin Hyde.
Wembley Women's Institute. "Number 10," by M. and S. Box.
The Wyllie School of Elocution. "Symphony in Illusion," by J. W. Bell.
The Old Uxonians. "The 300th Performance," by Stephen Barnett.
The Orlcotts. "Symphony in Illusion," by J. W. Bell
Northampton Catholic A.D.S. "The Upper Room," by R. H. Benson.
The Wellingborough Co-op. D.S. "Dangerous Corner," by J. B. Priestley.
The Charity Players "A." "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington.
The Kingsbury Dramatic Society. "The Second Visit," by John Bourne.
Hillingdon Women's Institute. "Joan the Maid," by Hermon Ould.

WESTERN AREA REPORT, 1936.

This has been a year of excitement, experiment, and, eventually, of great success. For some years past we have felt that excellent work was being done, but somehow it failed to bear fruit in any great increase of entries. But the seed was growing, and now suddenly it has burst forth in an increase of 33% on the previous best—and, what is better, this increase is present in all five Divisions. Another most satisfactory feature is the improvement in audiences. All the Divisional Finals except one were almost packed to the doors. Many Committees are faced with a new and, it must be admitted, rather unexpected problem—not how to attract an audience, but how to accommodate the audiences that come of their own accord.

Eastern Division.—The number of entries has this year been doubled and for the first time a Festival was held, with great success, at Coventry, attracting nine entries. Congratulations are due to Mr. A. R. Shephard and his colleagues for this excellent beginning. Leicester had eleven entries, and was the venue of the Divisional Final, held on March 14th with a packed and enthusiastic audience. Efforts are being made to extend the Festival next year to Stafford, where it is hoped to repeat Coventry's success.

The Midland Division has also had a most successful, if agitating, year. Entries have risen by some 30% to the highest figure yet known, and two entirely new centres have come into being, at Worcester and Walsall, both showing signs of vigorous activity when a few initial difficulties have been set right. Hereford is still to the fore as the biggest individual group, Shrewsbury has again supplied the Divisional champions, and the steady support at Wolverhampton continues. Birmingham has been in the news with a bold experiment for invigorating the preliminary round, an aim which was thoroughly accomplished, though by means which could certainly not be generally used.

The Central Division's horizon has been darkened by the impending resignation of the Secretary, Mr. Donald Morton, under whose leadership entries have been more than doubled and the organisation so perfected that this ranks as the model Division of the Area. The great event of the year was the extension of the Final from four teams to eight, an experiment which was thoroughly success-

ful in every way. Entries again rose, as they have done steadily for the past four years, to a record of 43 ; among these we were glad to welcome the first entry from Salisbury. Centres at Swindon and Taunton were again active and successful, the Rural Community Councils made their usual valuable contribution to the Festival, and 14 teams appeared in Bristol itself. The encroaching films drove the Festival from Bath, but this ground we confidently hope to regain next year.

The Southern Division, while still the smallest in actual figures, has also had its best year with 17 entries. A new centre has been opened at Eastleigh, whose first Festival was excellently managed and well attended. Another large and enthusiastic audience came to the New Milton Festival. The preliminary adjudications of Miss Margaret Webster were most helpful and gave great satisfaction. The Divisional Final proved a disappointment : it was to have been held in Southampton, but unforseen circumstances compelled a last-minute transference to Bournemouth, this, combined with bad weather, militating against a big attendance.

Western Division.—This was again controlled by last year's committee with Mr. J. T. Lethbridge as Chairman and Miss H. V. Dennis as Hon. Secretary. Entries numbered 27—again an increase on the previous best—but four withdrew. Successful Festivals took place, as usual, at Exeter, St. Ives and Plymouth and a new centre has been opened at Bude. The Divisional Final was held in Plymouth on March 28th, six teams playing in the two sessions, and such was the public interest aroused that the evening performance was more than sold out within two days of the preliminary round.

Perhaps the most important event in the Area's year is the transference of the Area Final to Bournemouth. Southern and Western teams have in the past found the journey to Stratford toilsome and expensive, and this year an effort has been made to meet their special difficulties. Whatever the result of this experiment, it is hoped that the Area Final has not seen the last of the stage of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre.

Eastern Division.

Leicester Group.

Aylestone Church D.S. "The Rope," by Eugene O'Neill.

Bitteswell W.I. Drama Group. "Trifles," by Susan Glaspell.

City Literary Institute Players. "Symphony in Illusion" by J. W. Bell.

Colsterworth Dramatic Amateur Players. "The Widow's Might," by C. B. Bailey.

Harrison Road Methodist D.S. "Ebb Tide," by Robert Lambert.

Leicester City Police Dramatic Section. "Dixon's Return," by W. W. Jacobs.

**Leicester College of Art and Technology D.S. "Aria Da Capo," by Edna St. Vincent Millay.

Oakham D.S. "Out Goes She," by Philip Johnson.

*Vaughan Players. "Symphony in Illusion," by J. W. Bell ; *"The Wedding," by Anton Tchekov.

Wycliffe Players. "The Deputation," by Seaward Beddow.

Coventry Group.

Coventry Co-Operative D.S. "Sad About Europe," by William Johnson ; "Ebb Tide," by Robert Lambert.

*Coventry Players. "Self-Made Man," by Sydney Box ; *"To-day of All Days," by Philip Johnson.

Magnet Players. "The Nurse in Charge of the Case," by E. F. Parr.

Queens Road Baptist Church D.S. "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington.

*St. George's A.D.S. "The Coffee Stall," by M. E. Forwood.

Y.M.C.A. D.S. "The Cab," by John Taylor ; "Created," by Lal Norris.

Midland Division.

Birmingham Group.

Somerset Road Methodist Church A.D.S. "Shanghai," by W. Stuckes.

Highbury Players. "The Dear Departed," by L. Andreyev ; "The Play of the Wether," by John Heywood.

Mitchells & Butlers D.S. "A Bite of the Apple," by Vernon Sylvaine.

*Old Yardleians D.S. "Night Journey," by Leonard Hines.

Midland Institute Shakespeare & Dramatic Soc. "Miss Marlowe at Play," by A. A. Milne ; "Self-Made Man," by Sydney Box.

Birmingham Insurance Institute D.S. "Wayside War," by Margaret Napier.

Moseley Girls' Friendly Society A.D.S. "What Every Woman Wants," by Anne Porter.

Thespians (B.M.O.S.). "Michael," by Miles Malleson ; "End and Beginning," by John Masefield.

Central Institute Players. "Black Night," by John Bourne.

Harkaway Players. "Shall we Join the Ladies ?" by J. M. Barrie.

Camp Hill Old Edwardians. "Happy Death, Ltd," by F. Sladen-Smith.

Tamworth Dramatic Art Club. "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets," by G. B. Shaw.

Shrewsbury Group.

**Shrewsbury A.D.S. **"The Last War," by Neil Grant ; "Symphony in Illusion," by J. W. Bell.

The Sprightlies. "The Breton Mother."

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE COMMUNITY THEATRE FESTIVAL.

Wolverhampton Group.

*Midland Players. "Mare o' my Dreams," by H. C. Voller.
Wolverhampton Grammar School D.S. "Self-Made Man," by Sydney Box.
Technical College D.S. "And Every Hill."
Penn Field Imps. D.S. "Desperationist," by Olive Conway.
Mander Bros. Welfare Club D.S. "The Recoil," by Eric Logan.
All Souls' Church D.S. "The Crystal," by T. Turner.

Hereford Group.

Whitchurch W.I. "My Herbert Says," by Hilda A. Fitch.
Bredwardine W.I. "Mrs. Snaggs, Detective," by O. M. Popplewell.
*Eardisland W.I. "The Person Responsible," by F. Morton Howard.
Ashperton W.I. "All of a Summer's Day," by Howard Agg.
Ledbury Players. "Campbell of Kilmohr." by J. A. Ferguson.
Tupsley W.I. "All Night Service," by Bernard Merivale.
Llangarron Village Players. "First Catch your Poacher," by Hilda A. Fitch; "Captain Cook and the Widow," by Stuart Ready.
Llangarron W.I. "O.H.M.S.," by Ronald Gow.
Huntington W.I. "Jones with a Hyphen," by Alice Halsey.
Huntington (Kington) Players. "The Price of Coal," by Harold Brighouse.
Eastnor W.I. "The Day's Good Cause," by M. E. Atkinson; "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh; "Stratagems," by Austin Hyde.
Weston-under-Penyard Players. "All Night Service," by Bernard Merivale.
Bishopswood W.I. "Safe Custody," by F. Austin Hyde.
Madley W.I. "Tap Three Times," by R. Croft Cooke.
Hereford Y.M.C.A. D.S. "The Altar Piece," by Emanuel Levy.
Mansel Lacy W.I. "Dame Truth," by E. V. Ouless.
Hereford Community Players. "S.O.S.," by Norman Leven.
Kidderminster Literary Society. "Ebb Tide," by Robert Lambert.
Withington Players. "E. & O. E.," by E. C. Williams.

Worcester Group.

*Old Elizabethans D.S. "Journey's End" (Act I., Sc. 2.,) by R. C. Sherriff.
W.F. A.D.S. (A) "Thread o' Scarlet," by J. J. Bell.
Leigh o Bransford W.I. "Chimney Corner," by H. T Chaven; "Patchwork."
Co-Operative D.S. "The Black Horseman," by Mary Pakington.
College for the Blind D.S. "Thread o' Scarlet," by J. J. Bell.
Youth Group of League of Nations Union. Extract from "The Lady with a Lamp," by Reginald Berkeley.
Droitwich A.O.D.S. "The Fourth Wall," (Act 1) by A. A. Milne.
St. Martin's D.S. "The Man who wouldn't go to Heaven," by F. Sladen-Smith.

Walsall Group.

Spencer Players. "Come Away Death," by Dorothy Carr.
Bloxwich Players. "Happy Death, Ltd.," by F. Sladen-Smith.
St. Mary's (Wednesbury). "The Deal."
*Co-Operative Players. "Mrs. Adis," by Sheila Kaye-Smith and John Hampden.

Central Division.

Gloucestershire Rural Community Council.

The Edge D.S. "Me and Me Roses," by H. C. Voller.
Boddington Manor Mummers. "Darkies Lead a Happy Life," by V. C. Seeley.
Wotton Players. "Consider Your Verdict," by Laurence Housman.
Longhope D.S. "The Illusionist," by Philip Johnson.
Icomb Players. "Julius Caesar" (Act IV, Scene iii), by William Shakespeare.
Matson Players. "Vindication," by L. J. Hines and Frank King.
Cinderford D.S. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh.

Somerset Rural Community Council.

*Nettlecombe Players. "Rats," by Phoebe M. Rees.
North Somerset Players. "The Knave of Hearts," by Robert Newton.
Swainswick Players. "The Bakehouse," by J. O. Francis.
Over Stowey W.I. Players. "The Cab," by John Taylor; "Yes, John," by Arthur Bartle.

Taunton Group.

*Taunton Thespians. *"First Instalment," by Molly Whiteman; "The Sickness of Salome," by Wilfred Westlake; "Love and How to Cure it," by Thornton Wilder.
Hartly Hodder Players. "Anti-Clockwise," by Muriel Box; "Slow Curtain," by Muriel Box.
Alpha Drama Club. "Twentieth Century Melody," by Cedric Mount.
Weston-super-Mare D.S. "The Bridge," by Dormer Harris.

Swindon Group.

Marlborough A.O.D.S. "Witch's Brew," by Dorothy MacArdle.
**Old Swindonians' D.S. "Wayside War," by Margaret Napier.
Swindon (G.W.) Shakespearean Society. "Sacrifice," by Chas. H. Merrett.
Manton A.D.S. "Sarah Pullan," by Norman Hillas.

Bristol Group.

*Bristol Central Y.M.C.A. D.S. *"The Eye of the Beholder," by Cyril Grainger; "Saturday Night," by Philip Johnson; "Lucrezia Borgia's Little Party," by A. J. Talbot.
Folk House Players. "Riders to the Sea," by J. M. Synge; "Symphony in Illusion," by J. W. Bell.

*Kelvin Players. "Where the Cross is Made," by Eugene O'Neill.
Bath Y.M.C.A. Players. "Opportunity," by R. J. McGregor.
*Bristol Drama Club. "Brigade Exchange," by Ernst Johanssen.
Dramedy Club. "Recipe for Fame," by Traviss Gill.
*Salisbury A.D.S. "The Moon of the Caribees," by Eugene O'Neill.
Somer Players. "The Man who wouldn't go to Heaven," by F. Sladen-Smith.
*Clifton Arts Club. *"The Flaw," by Cyril Roberts; "Happy Death, Ltd.," by F. Sladen-Smith; "Coronations," by Stephen Barnett.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

Eastleigh D.S. "Winsome Winnie," by V. C. Clinton-Baddeley and Stephen Leacock; "Vindication," by L. J. Hines and Frank King.
The New Club (Bournemouth). Extract from "The Cradle Song," by Sierra.
University Stage Society (Southampton). "Fantastic Flight," by Sydney Box.
Shawford and Compton V.D.S. "Lovely Lady," by Walter Knight.
Southampton Repertory Society. "Children in Uniform" (Act II, Scene iii.), by C. Winslow.
**Citizen Players of Portsmouth. "Doctor My Book," by A. Ramsey and R. de Cordova.
Peter Quince Players. "Dangerous to Know," by Beatrix Farrer; "Mr. Sampson," by Charles Lee.
Wareham A.D.S. "Vindication," by L. J. Hines and Frank King.
Bournemouth Westcliffe Townswomen's Guild. "The Second Best Bed," by Cyril Roberts.
*Lymington Players. "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets" by G. B. Shaw.
*New Forest Players. "Everybody's Husband," by Gilbert Cannan.
Boscombe Players. "Angels of War," by Muriel Box "The Last of the Fairies," by F. Morton Howard.
Everton and Hordle V.D.S. "Tom Thumb the Great," by Henry Fielding.
*Weymouth D.C. "Creditors," by L. J. Hines.

WESTERN DIVISION.

*Teignmouth D.C. "The Poison Party," by F. Sladen-Smith.
*St. Ives Arts Club. "Self-Made Man," by Sydney Box.
*Old Suttonians' A.D.S. "The Second Visit," by John Bourne.
Plymouth Co-Operative Players. "Illusions," by Dorothy Hewlett; "The Banns of Marriage," by Charles Lee.
Barnfield Players (Exeter). "The Hut Above the Tarn," by Nevin Halys.
*Kenneth Spooners A.D.S. "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
The Dry Rotters (Tavistock). "Black Night," by John Bourne.
*Dartmouth Players. "The One Unguarded Moment," by Ferdinand Kohn.
St. Mawes A.D.S. "Cherry of Zennor," by Mrs. Pollard.
Swarthmore Players. "Puck's Good Deed for the Day," by John Bourne.
Bude W.I. "The Bride," by Gertrude Jennings.
Bovey Tracey A.D.S. "Legend," by Philip Johnson; "A Night at an Inn," by Lord Dunsany.
Exeter Repertory Company. "Lights Out," by Walter Hudd.
W.E.A. Exeter Branch. "Lady Precious Stream" (Act I.), by H. I. Hsiung.
St. Peter's Players. "The Chimney Corner," by M. E. Atkinson.
Launceston A.D.S. "The Market Money," by Eden Philpotts.
Plymouth Shakespeare Society. "Shall we Leave the Gentlemen?" by T. B. Morris.
St. Ives D.S. "The Helping Hands," by Gertrude Jennings.
Meavy Village D.S. "The Cross Word Will," by Francis Roskruge.
**The Tamaritans. **"Lover's Meeting," by Irene Hall; "The Tragedy of Nan" (Act III.), by John Masefield.

NORTHERN AREA.

The steady increase in entries and general interest which has shown itself in recent years has been well maintained in 1936. The total number of B.D.L. Preliminary entries totalled 238, but there were unfortunately 16 withdrawals, so that 222 actually performed, as against 184 last year. This increase is due in part to the fact that a large number of Derbyshire R.C.C. teams entered the Festival direct, instead of performing in eliminating rounds from which two or three were promoted, as in previous years, but in most other divisions the entries increased, notably in Nottingham City, where, under the management of a new and enterprising committee, they rose from 9 to 20.

In view of a recent controversy regarding the Festival Play "Get out of your Cage" by Mary Plowman, the author desires us to print the following record.

St. Martin's Theatre second prize, International One-Act Play Competition. *Harrogate Festival*, second prize. *Lincolns Inn*, one of the plays selected for performance at Drama Circle Workers Club Competition. *Bath Festival of Contemporary Arts*, one of the three plays chosen for performance. The play has been performed 44 times in England, twice in Australia, and has been published in America as well as in England.

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE COMMUNITY THEATRE FESTIVAL.

A feature of this year's arrangements is the increasing popularity of Second Rounds, intermediate between the Preliminaries and the Semi-Finals, Second Rounds being held in Newcastle, Halifax, Ilkley, Hull, Grimsby, Chesterfield and Manchester. This certainly makes for better adjudication, while it adds to the number of teams who have the honour of at least one promotion. The team which represents the Area at the Old Vic will give its fifth Festival performance, having survived a Preliminary, a Second Round, a Group Semi-Final and the Area Final.

The Area Final was held at Buxton, following the practice of changing the venue periodically, in order to spread the interest, and proved to be a highly satisfactory centre.

The most gratifying feature of the development is that the entries are now spread over the whole area, every county being adequately represented.

East Yorkshire Division.

Acomb Church Amateur Dramatic Society. "Possession," by Laurence Housman.
*East and West Ayton Women's Institute. "Iphigenia in Tauris" (Act 2.), by Euripides.
Birdsall. "Woman's War," by G. F. Marson.
Bridlington Augustinian Players. "And Mercy Answered," by Robert Bretlynton.
*Bridlington Augustinian Players. "Tickless Time," by Susan Glaspell and George Cram Cook.
The Hull Catholic Players. "The Upper Room" (Act 1, Act II, Scene I), by Robert Hugh Benson.
Driffield Amateur Dramatic Society. "The Mask and the Face" (Act 1.), by C. B. Fernald.
*Hull Electricity Recreation Club Dramatic Section. "Punch and Go," by John Galsworthy.
Fish Street Memorial Literary and Dramatic Society. "The Legend," by Philip Johnson.
Holme Players. "Thirty Minutes in a Street," by Beatrice Mayor.
Kirbymoorside Dramatic Society. "Lord Richard in the Pantry" (Act II.), by Sydney Blow and Douglas Hoare.
Kirbymoorside Women's Institute. "All Night Service," by Bernard Merivale.
Kirkella Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society. "Kawana—The Incantation," by Torahiko Kori.
*The Malet Lambert Old Students' Drama Circle. "They Went Forth," by H. F. Rubinstein.
Marske-by-the-Sea Women's Institute. "Symphony in Illusion," by J. Wallace Bell.
Middlesborough Little Theatre. A Scene from "Twelfth Night," by Shakespeare.
Middlesborough Settlement Players. "The Dumb Wife of Cheapside," by Ashley Dukes.
*Nawton Women's Institute. "The Black Night," by John Bourne.
The Newland Players. "The Wedding," by Anton Tchekov.
Pickering Dramatic Society. "The Devil's Disciple," (Act I.), by George Bernard Shaw.
*Pickering Women's Institute. "Quality Street" (Act I.), by J. M. Barrie.
Premier Amateur Dramatic Society. "The Government Regrets," by Sydney Box.
The Rhodian Readers Dramatic Society. "Tails Up," by Cyril Roberts.
Rillington Drama Group. "Stratagems," by F. Austin Hyde.
Rosedale Abbey Women's Institute Junior Branch. "Honest Folk," by F. Austin Hyde.
*Sharrah Drama Club. "Anti-Clockwise," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
*Terry's Amateur Dramatic Society. "The Cat and the Cherub," by Chester B. Fernald.

Yorkshire Rural Community Council.

East Riding.

Sutton-on-Derwent D.S. "Birds of a Feather," by J. O. Francis.
Burton Agnes Drama Group. "Footprints," by V. M. Methley.
*Melbourne Drama Group. "Michael," by Miles Malleson.
Market Weighton D.S. (I.). "Mrs. Adis," by Sheila Kaye-Smith and John Hampden.
Market Weighton D.S. (II.). "Elizabeth Refuses," by Margaret Macnamara.
*Holme Players. "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington.
Brough D.S. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh.

Northwest Division.

Abbey Players D.S. "Beyond the Mountains," by Hedley Williams.
Askam Players. "The Patchwork Quilt," by Rachel Lyman Field.
Barrow Co-operative D.S. "Five at 'The George'," by Stuart Ready.
Barrow Labour D.S. "Cat among the Pigeons," by Herbert Ingham.
Barrow Teachers' A.D.S. "The Thread o' Scarlet," by J. J. Bell.
The Bowman Players. "To-day of all Days," by Philip Johnson.
Dalton Unemployed Workers Drama Group. "Pawns," by Percival Wilde.
Grange Evening Institute. "20th Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
Hawkshead Players. "Trifles," by Susan Glaspell.
J.O.C. Social Centre Dramatic Section. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh.
Lancaster Footlights Club. "Mansions," by Mrs. B. S. Philips.
Lancaster Footlights Club. "Shanghai," by W. Stuckes.
Old Barrovians A.D.S. "Fantastic Flight," by Sydney Box.
*The Outsiders' A.D.S. (Ulverston). "Smoke Screens," by Harold Brighouse.
Sacred Heart A.D.S. "Their Business in Great Waters," by Louis N. Parker.
Sacred Heart A.D.S. (Juniors). "The Bishop's Candlesticks," by Norman McKinnel.
Technical College Students' Dramatic Club. "Lights Out," by Walter Hudd.
The Thespians. "Playgoers," by Sir Arthur Pinero.

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE COMMUNITY THEATRE FESTIVAL.

North Eastern Division.

Alnwick Players. "In the Zone," by Eugene O'Neill.
Bensham Settlement Players. "Rosamunde," by Lionel R. McColvin.
Brancepeth Welfare D.S. "The Oak Settle," by Harold Brighouse.
Bywell W.I. Players. "Lucrezia Borgia's Little Party," by A. J. Talbot.
*Consett Community Players. "Shall We Join the Ladies," by J. M. Barrie.
*Durham A.D.S. "Adjudication" or "Herod Out Heroded," by Eric Barber.
Gateshead Y.W.C.A. "Symphony in Illusion," by J. W. Bell.
High Heaton Tenants Association. "The Bishop's Candlesticks," by Norman McKinnel.
Mrs. Armstrong's Amateur Dramatic Company "A." "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington.
Mrs. Armstrong's Amateur Dramatic Company "B." "The Voices," by Walter Dieriex.
*Murton Community Players. "The Cat Among the Pigeons," by Herbert Ingham.
Newcastle Y.M.C.A. "Michael and Mary," Act 3, by A. A. Milne.
Newcastle Y.W.C.A. "Riders to the Sea," by J. M. Synge.
The Pentland Robson Dramatic School. "The Discovery," by Hermon Ould.
**The Pentland Robson Dramatic School. "The Singing Sands," by Gordon Bottomley.
Progressive Players. "Derelict," by Allan Henderson.
Rock House Community Players. "The Tale of Two Cities" (Act I.), by Eric Barber.
St. Aidan's Players. "Michael," by Miles Malleson.
Tyneside Council of Social Service. "Mrs. Adis," by Sheila Kaye-Smith.
Tyneside Council of Social Service. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh and Harold Brighouse.
Waterhouses Guild of Players. "The Sister Who Walked in Silence," by Philip Johnson.
Westovian D.S. "The Healing Herb," by E. A. Bryan.

Sheffield Division.

Green Room Club, Mexboro. "The Border Line," by D. Gordon Wright.
**King Edward VII School Staff Dramatic Society. "The Road of Poplars," by Vernon Sylvaine.
Old Crescenters Dramatic Society. "Danse Macabre," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
Rotherham Playgoers. "The Devil was Sick," by Neil Grant.
Sheffield W.E.A. Dramatic Group. "Boomerang," by Nora Ratcliffe.
Sheffield Y.M.C.A. Dramatic Society. "Come Away-Death," by Dorothy Carr.
Stocksbridge Works Amateur Dramatic Society. "Circumstantial Evidence," by George H. Grimaldi.
Swan Players. "The Play of the Weather," by John Heywood.
Woodfield Players, South Elmsall. "The Oracles of Apollo," by Harold Brighouse.

West Riding Division.

*Batley Grammar School O.G.D.S. "Neighbourly Love," by F. A. Carter.
Bingley W.E.A. Drama Guild. "Riders to the Sea," by J. M. Synge.
*Bradford Girls Grammar School Players. "Women at War," by E. Percy.
Brighouse Players. "When the Whirlwind Blows," by Essex Dane.
Halifax Thespians. "The Good and the Bad," by Philip Johnson.
Hebden Bridge Literary and Scientific Society (Dramatic Section). "Happy Death, Limited," by F. Sladen-Smith.
Holmfirth A.D.S. "Sarah Pullan," by N. Hillas.
*Ilkley Players. "Double Demon," by A. P. Herbert.
**Montague Burton Players. Last act of "Othello," by William Shakespeare.
Morley Adult School Players. "Altar Piece," by Emmanuel Levy.
Old Hansonians D.S. "Rosamunde," by L. R. McColvin.
Outlook Players. "Men are Missing," by Michael Rayne.
Pottery Field Players. "Nothing but his due," by Norah Kelly.
St. Stephens A.D.S. "The Poison Party," by F. Sladen-Smith.
St. Wilfred's Rangers. "Sanctuary," by Phoebe M. Rees.
Summerbridge Village Players. "The Lonely of Heart," by Dorothy Coates.
*Wharfedale Amateurs. "Noah" (Act I.), by Andre Obey.

Yorkshire Rural Community Council.

West Riding.

Thorp Arch D.S. "Number Ten," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
Tadcaster. "Rory Aforesaid," by John Brandane.
Wetherby D.S. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh.
Bramham D.S. "Legend," by Philip Johnson.
*Boston Spa D.S. "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
Hammerton D.S. "Neighbourly Love," by F. A. Carter.
North Stainley D.S. "Eldorado," by Bernard Gilbert.
Summerbridge. "The Lonely of Heart," by Dorothy Coates.
Boroughbridge. "All Night Service," by Bernard Merivale.

Manchester and East Lancashire Division.

Cable Wright Group. "After the Event," by H. R. Williamson.
Fine Cotton Spinners (Central Office). "Jane Wogan," by Florence Howell.
Great Lever D.S. "Sad About Europe," by Philip Johnson.
Richard Harwood Co. "Mare o' my Dreams," by H. C. Voller.
Lymefield Amateurs. "A Waiting Game," by F. Morton Howard.
Marsland Group. "Genuine Antique," by Cyril Roberts.
*A. & C. Murray D.S. "The Auction," by Hilda Fitch.
Ormrod Hardcastle D.S. "The Day's Good Cause," by M. E. Atkinson.

Photo: Arthur Ingham.

SCENE FROM "RETROSPECT" BY H. B. THOMPSON. FESTIVAL PLAY ENTERED BY THE BURY STAGE SOCIETY, LANCS.

COSTUME DESIGN FOR ANY CHARWOMAN.
BY M. SWINSTEAD SMITH.

Stockport Recreation Group. "The Grand Cham's Diamond," by Alan Monkhouse.
*Chapel En le Frith. "Women at War," by Edward Percy.
Gatley. "The Card Party," by Beatrice Hatch.
Horwich. "Sanctuary," by Phoebe M. Rees.
*Bury Stage Society. "Retrospect," by H. B. Hampson
Crescent Players. "How it Happened," by B. J. Harper.
Crescent Players. "X O," by John Drinkwater.
*C.W.S. Balloon St. Players. "Calling the Tune," by Leonard Hines and Frank King.
C.W.S. Balloon St. Players. "The Doubt," by Harris Deans and Phillip O'Farrel.
Denton D.S. "The Wandering Jew" (Act. III.), by E. Temple Thurston.
**Masque D.S. "Come Away Death," by Dorothy Carr.
Saddleworth Players. "Pygmalion" (Act III.), by G. B. Shaw.
Tyldesley A.D.S. "Derelict," by Philip Johnson.

CUMBERLAND DIVISION.

**Cockermouth W.E.A. Players. "The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden," by Thornton Wilder.
Maryport W.E.A. Players. "Five at 'The George,'" by Stuart Ready.
Whitehaven W.E.A. Players. "The Stoker," by Harold Brighouse.
*Cockermouth W.E.A. Players. "Godstow Nunnery," by Laurence Binyon.
Brampton Players. "The Finger of God," by Percival Wilde.
Scotby W.I. Fairy scene from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," by Shakespeare.
*Carlisle Theatre Club. "Ebb Tide," by L. Lambert.
Cockermouth W.E.A. Players. "Who Killed Me," by Lucien Chantel.
*Dean W.E.A. Players. "O.H.M.S.," by Ronald Gow.
Keswick St. John's Girls' School. "The Fairies of Caldon Low," by Rosalind Vallance.
*Brampton Players. "The Pacifist," by Olive Popplewell.
*Carlisle Theatre Club. "Twelve Pound Look," by J. M. Barrie.
Wetheral W.I. Players. "The Old Master," by K. M. Brown.
Caldbeck Drama Group. "O.H.M.S.," by Ronald Gow.
Dacre W.I. "Black Night," by John Bourne.
Stainton W.I. "The Door on T'Chain," by F. Carmichael Brunton.
*Caldbeck Drama Group. "Lonesome Like," by Harold Brighouse.
Hutton Roof Dramatic Society. "The Price of Coal," by Harold Brighouse.
Hutton Roof Dramatic Society. "Joint Owners in Spain," by Alice Brown.

MERSEYSIDE AND WEST LANCASHIRE DIVISION.

Aigburth Vale High School Old Girls' Dramatic Circle. "The Chimney Corner," by M. E. Atkinson.
Ashlar & Calder Amateur D.S. "On Dartmoor," by Neil Grant.
Beechcroft Players, Birkenhead. "Altar Piece," by E. Levy.
Beechcroft Players, Birkenhead. "Antic Disposition," by Cisely L. Evans.
Birkenhead Gas Department A.D.S. "Derelict," by Philip Johnson.
Birkenhead Girls' Secondary School, Old Girls' A.D.S. "Trifles," by Susan Glaspell.
Birkenhead Girls' Secondary School, Old Girls' A.D.S. "Kawana," by Torahiko Kori.
Bluecoat Old Boys' A.D.S. "Object All Sublime," by Fred Ferris.
C.H.A. Club (Dramatic Section). "Puck's Good Deed for the Day," by John Bourne.
David Lewis Club. "The Land of Heart's Desire," by W. B. Yeats.
*The Irish Amateur Players. "The Rising of the Moon," by Lady Gregory.
Liverpool Playgoers' Club. "The Deserter," by Lascelles Abercrombie.
Liverpool Playgoers' Club. "Smithfield Preserved," by Ivor Brown.
Liverpool Playgoers' Club. "Self-Made Man," by Sydney Box.
Minister A.D.S. "Heaven and Earth," by Philip Johnson.
Nantwich Play Reading Circle. "The Lovely Miracle," by Philip Johnson.
Players' Dramatic Soc. "Symphonie Pathetique," by Sydney Box.
St. Helens N.A.L.G.O. D.S. "Count Albany," by Donald Carswell.
St. Helens N.A.L.G.O. D.S. "Far, far away," by Philip Johnson.
St. Mark's Players, Birkenhead. "20th Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
*The Unity Players. "Beauty and the Beast," by Helen Miller.
Wallasey Playgoers' Club. "Murder Trial," by Sydney Box.
Wharfedale School of Drama, Southport. "Playgoers," by Sir A. Pinero.

DERBYSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

Rural Section.

Ambergate Women's Institute. "Honest Folk," by F. Austin Hyde.
*Ashbourne Women's Institute. "For Each Man Kills," by Monica Thorne.
Aston-on-Trent Women's Institute. "Unnatural Scene," by Kathleen Davey.
Aston-on-Trent Women's Institute (Team 2). "T'-Pup," by Graham Sutton.
Castleton Players. "Love and Cousin Albert," by Henry Penson.
Chapel-en-le-Frith Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Group. "Women at War," by Edward Percy.
Chapel-en-le-Frith Amateur Players. "Internal Birthday," by N. K. Smith.
Chinley Women's Institute Dramatic Group. "The Price of Coal," by Harold Brighouse.
Eyam Evening Institute. "Captain Cook and the Widow," by Stuart Ready.
Pinxton Welfare Dramatic Society. "The Map," by E. V. Davenport and Dorothy Stuart.
South Derbyshire Amateur Dramatic Society. "The Confutation of Wisdom," by F. Sladen-Smith.

*Spondon Women's Institute. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh.

Derby Section.

Ashbourne Women's Institute Centre. "Amazons on Broadway," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
The Midland Dramatic Society. "The Crudeness of Major Franklyn," by F. J. Marsden Starkey.
*The Pepys Players. "For each man kills," by Monica Thorne.

Chesterfield Section.

Chesterfield Playgoers Society. "Five at 'The George'," by Stuart Ready.
*ChesterfieldPlaygoers Society. "Budge, Budge Not," by N. K. Smith.
Clay Cross Amateur Dramatic Society. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh.
The Green Room Club, Buxton. "The Flame," by Austin Clark.
The Settlement Players. "To-day of all Days," by Philip Johnson.
The Settlement Players (B. Team). "Safe Custody," by F. Austin Hyde.

LINDSEY DIVISION.

Bishop Norton Drama Group. "World Without Men," by Philip Johnson.
*Brigg Drama Group. "The Bride," by Gertrude Jennings.
**Cleethorpes Dramatic Society. "Five at 'The George'," by Stuart Ready.
Caistor Dramatic Society. "An Experiment in Fear," by Richard Heron Ward.
Friskney Women's Institute. "Footprints," by Violet Methley.
Gainsborough Dramatic Society. "Seven Women," by J. M. Barrie.
Grainthorpe Dramatic Society. "Jane Wogan," by Florence Howell.
Healing Players. "Beauty for Sale," by Muriel and Sydney Box.
Keddington and Louth Park W.I. "World Without Men," by Philip Johnson.
Louth Playgoers. "The Playwright's Tragedy," by Ralph Parkinson.
*Louth Playgoers. "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
Laceby Drama Group. "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh, revised by Harold Brighouse.
*North Kelsey Drama Group. "To-day of All Days," by Philip Johnson.
Scunthorpe Players. "Bureaucrats," by Olive Conway; "Eldorado," by Bernard Gilbert; "Lights Out," by Walter Hudd.
West Butterwick Drama Group. "T'Pup," by Graham Sutton.

Nottingham City Festival.

Nottingham Amateur Dramatic Club. "The Internal Birthday," by N. K. Smith.
Nottingham Amateur Players. "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington; *"The Lovely Miracle," by Philip Johnson.
Boots' Amateur Dramatic Society. "Sacrifice," by Charles H. Merritt.
Desmond Greene School of Acting. "At the 'Angler's Rest," by Janet Marshall; "Family Album," by Norman Rowarth; "The Time Factor," by Peggy Chambers; "Love and a Luddite," by Gwladys Duke; "Riders to the Sea," by J. M. Synge.
Pageant Players (Nottingham Teachers' Dramatic Society). "Campbell of Kilmohr," by J. A. Ferguson; "In the Tunnell," by Roy Jordan; "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington; "The Warming Pan," by W. W. Jacobs;
Nottingham Philodramatic Players. "Budge, Budge Not," by N. K. Smith.
Nottingham Phoenix Players. "Circumstantial Evidence," by George H. Grimaldi; "Surprise in Paris," by Gwladys Duke.
Nottingham Playgoers' Club. "Boccaccio's Untold Tale," by Harry Kemp.
Southwark Street Old Scholar's Dramatic Society. "Black Harvest," by John Odams.
St. Mary's Amateur Dramatic Society. "Who's Who," by B. Binstead Griffiths.
Sutton-in-Ashfield Amateur Dramatic Society. "Love and Cousin Albert," by Henry Penson.

SOUTHERN GROUP FINAL.

1. *Derbyshire*. Chesterfield Playgoers' Society. "Budge, Budge Not," by N. K. Smith.
2. *Nottingham City*. Nottingham Amateur Players. "The Lovely Miracle," by Philip Johnson.
3. *Nottinghamshire*. East Bridgeford Players. "One morning very early," by Philip Johnson and Howard Agg.
4. *Yorkshire*. King Edward VII. School Staff Dramatic Society, Sheffield. **"The Road of Poplars," by Vernon Sylvaine.

SCOTLAND.

The Tenth Annual Festival in Scotland has passed off successfully. The entries totalled 386, an increase of one over last year; the entries have been well maintained in all the Divisions. It is interesting to note that entries from Clubs for the Unemployed increased from 3 last year to 11, though those from Women's Rural Institutes fell from 96 to 88. Two entries in Gaelic were adjudicated, one at Fort William and one at Elgin.

It is to be observed that the entries in the special British Drama League Section numbered 74, an increase of 2 over last year.

Fifty-three teams entered Original Plays in the 1936 Festival.

106 Preliminary Festival Sessions were held at a total of 50 centres.

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE COMMUNITY THEATRE FESTIVAL.

After the Preliminary stage Divisional Festivals were held as follows :—

Centre.	*Teams.*	*Adjudicator.*
Edinburgh	12	Robert Young
Glasgow	12	F. Sladen-Smith
Stirling	6	Robert Young
Inverurie	9	Robert Young
Inverness	13	Duncan Marks

From these 10 teams appeared at the Scottish Final Festival in the Lyric Theatre, Glasgow, on April 16th to 18th, before Mr. Richard Southern as adjudicator.

The winner was the Forfar Dramatic Society in "The Dreamer" by Joe Corrie. This team, not being affiliated to the League was not eligible to come to London but the runner up, namely Glasgow Corporation Transport Players in "And So To War" by Joe Corrie, will represent Scotland at the Old Vic.

Though the increase in entries this year has been small, it is not regarded with dissatisfaction as it is felt that the Festival is still fulfilling its functions and it is definitely noticed that the average quality of the productions is still rising, and the enthusiasm and serious interest in the work is well maintained. It has been a wide-spread comment from adjudicators that the standard of acting and the potentialities of the players are deserving of a considerably higher standard of production and adjudicators have urged strongly that a greater number of people should take a more serious and sustained interest in the art and technique of play production. If this is done, there seems to be no doubt that a further very marked improvement in Festival standard may be anticipated in the years to follow.

SCOTTISH (B.D.L.) ENTRIES.

Athelstaneford W.R.I. "The Mistress of Greenbyres," by Joe Corrie ; "All Night Service," by Bernard Merivale.

*Dunbar W.R.I. "Their Business in Great Waters," by Louis N. Parker.

Longniddry W.R.I. "Women at War," by Edward Percy ; "Baps," by Andrew Anderson.

*Crossroads W.R.I. "Baps," by Andrew Anderson ; "The Wee Motto," by M. M. Muir.

**Falkirk High School F.P.'s Dramatic Circle. "Something to Talk About," by Eden Philpotts ; "Kindowrie," by R. J. McIntosh ; "Suilven and the Eagle," by Gordon Bottomley.

*Ad Astra Players Club. "Here Comes the King," by Harry Penson ; "The Lad o' Pairts," by David Cleghorn Thomson.

*B.C.I. Players. "The Changeling," by Robert McLellan ; "Retribution," by Bryna Meltzer.

Caridacia Dramatic Club. "At the Crossroads," by H. Fletcher Lee.

**Corstorphine Literary Association Incorp. Dramatic Section. "Moo," by Andrew Anderson ; "Andante," by Andrew Anderson.

Edinburgh Elocution Club. "The Maid of Domremy," by Joe Corrie ; "Obal the Mute," by Andrew P. Wilson.

Edinburgh Women's Athletic Club Dramatic Section. "Orphee," by Jean Cocteau ; "I Made You Possible," by Ivor Brown.

*The Makars. "The Man Who Married a Dumb Wife," by Anatole France (translated by Ashley Dukes) ; "Will Shakespeare" (Act IV.), by Clemence Dane.

Newbattle Burns Club Dramatic Society. "Carry the Torch," by Robert B. Crombie.

*Berwick Amateur Dramatic Society. "The Encore," by Alan Melville.

Berwick-on-Tweed High School Dramatic Club. "Tobias and the Angel" (Act II.), by James Bridie.

Barr and Stroud Dramatic Club. "Vision," by Olive Popplewell.

**Glasgow Corporation Transport Players. "And So To War," by Joe Corrie.

**Glasgow Players. "Ghosts" (Act III.), by Henrik Ibsen.

Hillington Park Church Dramatic Society. "Jonathan's Day," by Horace Flather.

Pantheon Club. "Helena's Husband," by Philip Moeller ; "This Bitter Seed," by D. Gordon Wright; "Roses and Rue," by Winifred Fraser.

Paisley Players Club. "James I. of Scotland" (Act IV, Scene 1, and Act V, Scene III), by Robert Bain.

Gatehouse Dramatic Club. "Five at 'The George'," by Stuart Ready.

Ardeer Recreation Club. "The Changeling," by Robert McLellan.

Prestwick Players Club. "Kirkconnel Lea," by Gordon Bottomley ; "The Turtle Dove," by M. S. Oliver.

*Troon Ex-Servicemen's Amateur Dramatic Club. "Mrs. Watson at Bay," by Hal. D. Stewart ; "The Road of Poplars," by Vernon Sylvaine.

Newark Amateur Players. "Ghosts on Christmas Eve," by M. B. Latter.

Guardbridge Memorial Institute Dramatic Circle. "Hobson's Choice" (Act I.), by Harold Brighouse.

*Dundee Dramatic Society. "Shattered," by Henry Bordeaux ; "Heaven on Earth," by Philip Johnson.

*Blue Triangle Players. "The Trojan Women," by Euripides.

*Dunkeld Players. "Colonel Wotherspoon" (Act I.), by James Bridie ; "Hyacinth Halvey," by Lady Gregory ; "Women at War," by Edward Percy.

*St. Andrews Dramatic Society. "Baps," by Andrew Anderson.

Belmont Dramatic Society. "Maid's Judgment," by Margaret Ashworth.

North Aberdeen Junior Unionist Players. "A Traveller Returns," by Clemence Dane ; "The Great Dark," by Dan Totheroh ; "The House of Dreams," by John D. Kelly.

**Northern Theatre Club. "Fire Below," by L. J. Hines and Frank King ; "What Would You Do ?" by M. Reid-Jamieson ; "Yellow Leaf," by Philip Blair.

*Rotary Players of Aberdeen. "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
**Inverurie Players. "Cried on Sunday," by Daisy Bruce; "Cheengefu' Wordle," by Daisy Bruce.
Banff Dramatic Society. "The Sword and the Light," by G. Rowntree Harvey; "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount; "St. Anthony's Eve" by Gordon Hardy.
Flora Macdonald Y.W.C.A. Players. "Peace Comes to Michael," by J. Drysdale Skinner; "April Shower," by Philip Johnson.
Stromness Amateur Dramatic Society. "The Second Visit," by John Bourne; "A Farewell Supper," by Arthur Schnitzler.

WELSH AREA REPORT.

With the opening of the 1935-36 Drama Season hopes ran high in the Area that the season would witness several records. With the approach of the closing date for Entries it was disappointing to note that these were below the total reached in the previous year. To counteract this decline it was most encouraging to all that the number of Societies represented in the list of entries showed an increase.

Two new playwrights have made their appearance at the Festival and four new works were presented. Wales has been handicapped in the past in that very few playwrights make an appearance. The 1936 Festival has certainly served a very useful purpose in the Principality, in bringing to the stage the works of these new playwrights, Mr. D. O. W. Harris of the Cardiff Little Theatre and Mr. Ken Etheridge of the Cymric Players, Ammanford.

Enthusiasm has never been so great in the Southern Section and splendid "houses" have been secured at all the Centres. Although all details are not as yet to hand, it is evident that the financial result of the Preliminary Rounds will prove to be a record.

The inability of the Northern Section to give its full support is to be regretted. A rapid awakening is necessary in this Section if it is to continue to have a voice in the control of the Area. Here there were but four entries and two of these withdrew before the date of playing. To all the affiliated Societies in this section we issue an earnest appeal for renewed activity and a return of that enthusiasm which was present when the formation of a Welsh Area was first mooted some four years ago.

The Preliminary Rounds were this year adjudicated by Mr. Rupert Harvey whose remarks were truly constructive and proved most useful to the players. During this, his first visit, he created an excellent impression among players and audiences alike.

The Area Final was again staged at Mardy on April 29th, and was adjudicated by Mr. E. Martin Browne.

WELSH AREA ENTRIES.

Southern Section.

Llyn Players. "Campbell of Kilmohr," by J. A. Ferguson.
Glasbury. "Lovely Lady," by Walter Knight.
Brynmawr. "The Late Christopher Bean" (Act 2), by R. Fawchois, translated by Emlyn Williams.
Treharris D.S. "Black Night," by John Bourne; *"Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount.
West Grove D.S. "Number 10," by Muriel and Sydney Box; "The Silver Bullet," by Helen Nicholson.
Brecon Little Theatre. "The Miracle Merchant," by Saki; "The Shadow of the Glen," by J. M. Synge.
Blackwood D.S. "Solomon's Folly," by Sydney Box; "Twentieth Century Lullaby," by Cedric Mount; "A Saint's Comedy," by F. Sladen-Smith; "Tobias and the Angel" (Act 2), by James Bridie.
Oxford House, Risca. "Trifles," by Susan Glaspell.
Old Tylerians. "The Government Regrets," by Sydney Box.
Llanelly Y.M.C.A. "The House with the Twisty Windows," by Mary Pakington.
*Cymric Players, Ammanford. *"Underground," by Ken Etheridge; "Sleeping Partner," by Ken Etheridge; "Rhiannon" Act 2, by Ken Etheridge.
Pengam D.S. "Portrait of a Gentlemen in Slippers," by A. A. Milne.
Mardy D.S. "The Auction," by Hilda Fitch; "Captivity," by E. Lloyd Barritt.
Senghenydd Community Players. "Women at War," by Edward Percy.
Bridgend Players. "A Bill of Divorcement" (Act 2), by Clemence Dane.
*Garrick D.S. "Self Made Man," by Sydney Box.
Machen Church D.S. "The Editor Regrets," by Geoffrey Bradley.
Penarth D.S. "The Circle" Act 2, by Maugham.
Caerphilly Players. "The Password," by A. Ramsay and R. de Cordova.
Cardiff Students. "The Bear," by Tchekov.
Grovian Players. "In the Zone," by Eugene O'Neill.
Cardiff Little Theatre. "Wandsworth Double Two," by D. O. W. Harris; "Family Comedy," by Marjorie Bowen.
*Bwllfa Welfare D.S. *"Memories," by Brinley Jones.
Trecynon Little Theatre. "The Dark Curtain," by Evelyn Herbert; "The Widow of Ephesus," by Vincent Godfrey.
Tredegar Yorick. "Bathsheba of Saarmaa," by A. Kallas.

Northern Section.

Undeb Drama Lleyn. "Spinsters of Lushe," by Philip Johnson; "Riders to the Sea," by J. M. Synge; "Hat and Stick," by Margaret Macnamara; "Cat among the Pigeons," by H. Ingham.

BRITISH DRAMA LEAGUE
VILLAGE DRAMA SECTION
PLAYWRITING COMPETITION 1937

The Committee has pleasure in announcing the thirteenth playwriting competition, in which book prizes to the value of £2 - 2 - 0 are offered in the following classes. In addition, we undertake to publish the best play in the whole competition, and to recommend for publication all the prize-winning plays, and any others likely to be of value to the villages.

Intending competitors are particularly requested to note the following points. The kind of play we want must be suitable for country players and audiences. These people have, in most cases, had a good deal of dramatic experience, and must not be written down to. But they need a special type of play.

The plays must be actable on small stages and in small halls, without a great deal of expense or elaborate mechanism. Modern highly sophisticated scenes, night clubs, bridge parties, &c. are not useful, nor are characters such as Cabinet Ministers and Bright Young Things. We want good human stories, embodying real ideas. Plays that are merely conversations, or just slight episodes, have been overdone, and the country players are everywhere demanding plays of real dramatic value.

CLASS I. Translation of a play or plays in any European language, or adaptation of an archaic play or plays. The suitability of the play will be taken into consideration as well as the translation, and free adaptation in some cases will be necessary. Copyright must not be infringed.

CLASS II. One-act comedy for village players (to play not longer than 40 minutes or less than 15 minutes).

CLASS III. One-act serious play for village players (to play not longer than 40 minutes or less than 15 minutes).

CLASS IV. One-act romantic or poetic play (including Historical and Biblical plays), tragedy or comedy, for village players, (to play not longer than 40 mins. or less than 15 mins).

NOTE. In Classes II., III. and IV. there must be no change of scene.

CLASS V. An original play of any type suitable for village players, to play about one hour.

CLASS VI. A full-length play (*i.e.*, to play two hours) suitable for village production.

RULES

1. An entrance fee of 2/6 must be sent with each play submitted.
2. Each competitor must adopt a nom-de-plume, and must enclose his or her real name and address (together with a stamped and addressed envelope for return of MS.) *in a sealed envelope attached to the play. On this envelope must be written both the nom-de-plume and the name of the play.* If several plays are entered by the same author, each play must have a separate envelope. Any indication of the real name of the writer renders the play liable to disqualification.
3. Plays may be written in collaboration by two or more authors, but if a prize is won by a play written thus, its value will be divided among the collaborators.
4. The judges reserve the right not to award a prize if the standard is not sufficiently high. The judges' decision will be final.
5. Every endeavour will be made to return MSS., but no responsibility will be accepted, and it would be advisable to have two copies typed. The results will be announced as soon as possible, and no replies will be made to enquiries received while the adjudication is in progress.
6. Plays sent in must be new ones, *i.e.*, not published or about to be published, or already on a recommended list; this, however, does not rule out plays which have been 'tried out' on the amateur stage.
7. Plays must be *clearly typed* on one side of the paper only, and must be sent to Miss Scrutton, Village Drama Section, British Drama League, 9, Fitzroy Square, W.1. before February 1st, 1937. Envelopes must be marked Playwriting Competition. Plays must be marked with the class for which they are intended, *or they will be disqualified.*

N.B. *Will the Competitors look very carefully at the particulars, especially as regards time. For the guidance of beginners, a page of typewriting is taken to play a little over a minute. Special attention is also drawn to rules 1 and 2. We cannot undertake any responsibility for loose stamps and blank envelopes enclosed with MSS.*

JANET SCRUTTON (Hon. Secretary Playwriting Competition).

Further copies of this leaflet can be obtained from The Village Drama Section, British Drama League, 9, Fitzroy Sq., W.1

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